Message From The Commissioner

Healthy Chicago is all about collaboration, because the right collaboration can result in new innovations that improve public health. CDPH is proud to be part of a new collaboration that is launching a new, innovative project this week. The Healthy Minds, Healthy Children, Healthy Chicago (H3) initiative is the result of a five-year, $4 million investment from the Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) and will uniquely blend primary healthcare services with mental health services to serve thousands of Chicago children and families on the South and West Sides.

As the CDC recently reported, half of lifetime mental illnesses faced by individuals began by age 14. Additionally, the majority of primary care visits to community health centers include a psychosocial component that in turn affects the patient’s physical health. By integrating physical and mental services for youth in at-risk neighborhoods, H3 will be helping to resolve mental health issues early before they can develop into lifetime illnesses. Specifically, a team of community-based providers will provide mental health screenings, counseling and support services, medication management and mental health coordination for both children and their families, in addition to primary care services.

This news will make a positive difference in the lives of thousands, and once proven successful can be replicated in other locations throughout Chicago and beyond. But it would never happen without ongoing collaboration, not just between CDPH and ILCHF but also between the organizations leading the effort on the ground – in Englewood, Metropolitan Family Services is working with UI Health Mile Square Health Center; in Humboldt Park/West Town, Erie Family Health Center is working with Community Counseling Centers of Chicago. All of these organizations have a track record of success improving the health of their communities, and by working together, there is even more we can do.

Together, we will help improve the health and well-being of our youth, which will in turn improve Chicago’s health overall.

Sincerely,

Bechara Choucair, M.D.
Healthy Chicago Implementation

- CDPH recently began a pregnancy prevention campaign called ‘Big Baby.’ Following last year’s successful ‘Unexpected’ campaign, it features a new image of a teen boy holding a giant baby, a baby that is even larger than the teen himself who is noticeably weighed down by the new arrival. Below the image, the text reads 'Not ready for the heavy responsibility of being a parent? Then carry something lighter. Use Condoms. Or wait.' The ads are currently displayed on bus shelters across Chicago and will be featured in select teen publications during the month of May, national teen pregnancy prevention month. Similar to last year’s campaign, ‘Big Baby’ challenges gender stereotypes by featuring a young male parent, reminding residents that pregnancy and healthy sexual choices are not the exclusive responsibilities of teen girls. The campaign also directs youth to visit BeYouBeHealthy.org, a website from CDPH that provides adolescents and parents with information about sex, healthy relationships, condoms and more. Adolescent Health

- On May 1, Mayor Emanuel announced that Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) has committed to a $12.5 million, five-year sponsorship investment to support, strengthen and expand the Divvy bike share program. The City and Divvy will promote active transportation choices and how these activities can lead to improved health and wellness. Funds will also be leveraged for bike lane sweeping and snow removal equipment, bike lane materials, bike ambassadors and bike route map development. Since Divvy launched in June 2013, bicyclists have taken more than one million trips, riding more than 2.25 million miles, and collectively burning an estimated 100 million calories. Obesity Prevention

- The Chicago Community Health Worker (CHW) Survey & Mapping Project was featured at the Community Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) Annual Conference held on April 30-May 3 in Chicago. The CHW Survey & Mapping Project surveyed CHWs and CHW Program Administrators in Rogers Park to develop a methodology for a citywide survey effort, gather information about the work of CHWs, and obtain feedback on the community’s health and other concerns. Conference participants had the opportunity to go into the community to visit innovative local programs and models. Sixteen participants met at HealthConnect One to hear about CHW work in Chicago, and other project staff presented a poster at the CCPH conference. The project was an initiative of CDPH, Partnership for Healthy Chicago, Chicago CHW Local Network, HealthConnect One, Chicago State University, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, along with many other community and academic partners. Public Health Infrastructure

- CDPH has just launched the Healthy Chicago Survey (HCS), a citywide telephone survey to collect the most current data on the health and well-being of Chicago residents. CDPH has contracted with Abt SRBI to perform the interviews. The information gathered will help CDPH evaluate policies, programs, education and public awareness campaigns outlined in Healthy Chicago. Additionally, data from the HCS will serve as the foundation of the planning process for CDPH and partners to advance public health priorities with a focus on health equity. For more information, please visit http://tinyurl.com/nssfglv. Multiple Priority Areas

- The Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) will fund the Double Value Coupon Program (DVCP) at Chicago Farmer’s Markets this year. The program, which allows LINK customers to receive matching funds for fresh fruit, vegetables and plants, will go from 15 markets to 30 markets. The program provides an incentive for LINK customers to purchase healthy food, and has increased LINK sales at Farmer’s Markets by 24% during the three years the program has been in place. Obesity Prevention
Healthy Chicago Policy Highlights

- As of April 29, the Chicago Clean Indoor Air Act includes regulations on e-cigarettes. Chicago was the first of the 20 largest U.S. cities to propose legislation to include e-cigarettes in their clean indoor air law. Following Chicago’s lead, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Philadelphia also introduced and subsequently passed legislation to add e-cigarettes to their smoke-free laws. Chicago’s new regulation on e-cigarettes include a restriction on smoking or vaping of e-cigarettes, vape pens or e-cigarettes in all enclosed public places and enclosed places of employment. Tobacco Use

- On May 5, CDPH hosted a tobacco roundtable with Dr. Howard Koh, Assistant Secretary for Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Chicago’s policy, systems and environmental change successes around tobacco use were discussed, along with implementation of FDA authority for tobacco product regulation, the Affordable Care Act and its implication for access to cessation, and extending comprehensive smokefree indoor protections. Dr. Koh applauded the city’s successful tobacco use efforts. Tobacco Use

Getting the Word Out

- On June 25, the Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities and CDPH will host Collaboration with Chicago Department of Public Health: Applied Research, Program Evaluation & Epidemiology. The discussion is open to academic institutions across Chicago, community-based organizations and analytics partners. Commissioner Choucair will provide a brief overview of Healthy Chicago. Additional speakers from CDPH will share applied research and program evaluation priority areas, guidance on accessing CDPH and other relevant data sources, and best practices for ensuring that research can inform public health policy-making. The discussion takes place from 2:00-4:30 at 240 E. Huron. RSVP at ARCC@northwestern.edu. Multiple Priority Areas

- The Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition and Illinois Collaboration on Youth is hosting a free childhood trauma training series in June. The training will help those working with children and teens to recognize signs of trauma and learn how to create safe and supportive environments, as well as self-care strategies. Free CEUs for LCSWs, LSWs, LCPCs and LCPs will be provided. The three trainings take place in Chicago. For more information, contact Lisa Toban at ltoban@icoyouth.org. Violence Prevention

- CDPH recently announced that more than $1.4 million is available to fund local organizations through the City of Chicago’s Community Development Block Grant Program. Non-profits can apply for the funding in five program areas including crisis intervention project, HIV/AIDS housing, STI/HIV education and screening for adolescents and young adults, violence prevention initiatives and mental health services for child and adolescent victims of sexual assault. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 31, 2014. For information and an application, go to http://tinyurl.com/lfx3cye. Multiple Priorities
Implementation Update - May 2014

Healthy Chicago Public Schools

Obesity Prevention

- To date, 15 new schools have been trained in the Eat What You Grow school garden program. A total of 39 schools have been trained for SY 2013-2014.
- TIF applications were released to schools, which would provide funding for up to 84 Physical Education teacher positions to increase school capacity to implement the requirements of the PE policy. Awards to schools will be announced in the coming weeks.
- To date, 20 additional schools have confirmed participation in the 30+20+10 project for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year. Through this project these elementary schools would join the 25 schools who committed in the current school year to offer daily: 30 minutes of physical education, 20 minutes of recess and 10 minutes of physical activity integrated throughout the school day.
- Agreements have been reached with 62 schools to participate in the FoodShare program, in which uneaten school food packaged non-perishables and produce are collected and donated to local community organizations.
- To date, OSHW has visited 56 schools providing direct policy support implementation for the new PE policy. This includes 50 elementary schools and six high schools.
- Two presentations were provided on physical education and physical activity at the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) National Convention in St. Louis in early April.

Access to Care

- Collected over 2100 vision consent forms during report card pick-up days in April.
- Collected 116 pairs of eyeglasses during March Recycle your Eyeglasses for Sight campaign.
- An article on the CPS EpiPen Initiative and Food Allergy Policy was published in the May 2014 Journal on School Health.
- Mayor Emanuel visited the Charles Sumner Math & Science Community on Friday, May 3 to observe the School-Based Vision Program.
- To date, 26,944 vision exams have been completed (20,479 School Based, 4991 Princeton, 1474 OneSight).

HIV Prevention

- 19/20 school Letters of Commitment have been secured for the CDC HIV/STI Prevention Initiative.
- Conducting Readiness Assessments and creating Action Plans with all 20 HIV/STI Initiative schools (14 completed).
- 30 schools are scheduled for participation in the STI Project and 2 schools completed participation in April.
- 490 sexual health education instructors trained for SY2013-14 (295 in person and 195 via webinar).

School Health Infrastructure

- Participating in the Early Childhood Resource Fair on May 5 to promote OSHW resources and school supports to early childhood parents.
- Secured three Chicago Health Corps Members for school year 2014-15 (2 for vision and 1 for HIV/STI Prevention).
- Healthy CPS survey reports, which measures school alignment with health and wellness policies, were released to participating schools in mid-April. Network reports will be disseminated in May.

Adolescent Health

- Presented Developing a School Based Health Center Policy to Improve Collaboration at the Illinois School Health Conference, Building Healthy Futures 2014, on May 1 in Oak Brook, IL.